

IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday September 24th 2000

Cork Rally

The annual Cork rally was held last Sunday at the Blarney Park Hotel and was again a great success. All the usual traders were present and all reported good business on the day.

There was also a good selection of second hand equipment available as well as the usual selection of junk.

The IRTS book stand reported good business with both sales and membership renewals.

Four candidates sat the Morse test and are anxiously awaiting confirmation of the results.

Cork Radio Club had a stand and signed up several potential students for their theory classes.

Congratulations to the organisers on a job well done.

IRTS Committee Meeting

The next meeting of the IRTS committee will be held on Saturday next, September the 30th at 11am at the Shamrock Lodge Hotel in Athlone.

Clubs are reminded that they may send representatives to this meeting.

Presentation to EI3HH

A very surprised Tom Jeffery EI3HH was the recipient of a presentation by Pat Geoghegan EI9EZ to mark his retirement from Broadcasting the weekly CW news bulletins on Sunday mornings.

Pat made the presentation on behalf of the regular callers to the CW bulletin.

Tom was the originator of the CW news bulletin and send it on a hand key for quite some time. He eventually graduated to a computer which took the strain out of the job but he still uses the hand key for normal operation.

He was presented with a beautiful turned ash salad bowl by well known craftsman John Lucas from County Louth.

We wish Tom every good health and many more years on the hand key.

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group

The next general meeting of the South Eastern Amateur Radio Group will take place on Wednesday next the 27th of September at 8.00pm in the Roanmore Social and Sports Centre, Cleaboy Road, Waterford.

This will be a general information meeting, of particular interest to the newer members, where people can find out how the club is run, learn about club assets and finances and how the repeaters, digipeaters etc. are maintained. All are welcome.

SEARG is now looking for people interested in sitting theory classes leading up to the theory exam. These classes will take place one night a week in Waterford at a nominal cost. Dates and times have not yet been finalised.

If you would like to do the course please make contact to register your interest. Contact the club at searg@angelfire.com or phone Mark Wall, EI7IS on 087-6302026.

International Space Station

The recent US Space Shuttle Atlantis mission to the International Space Station delivered amateur VHF and UHF hand-held transceivers for the multi-national ARISS program, as well as a TNC for packet, a specially developed headset and signal adapter module plus power adapters and interconnecting cables.

The gear was stowed aboard the ISS until the Expedition 1 crew of US astronaut Bill Shepherd, KD5GSL, and Russian Cosmonauts Sergei Krikalev, U5MIR, and Yuri Gaidzenko come aboard.

This is scheduled for early November.

On September 11, US astronaut Ed Lu, KC5WKJ, and Russian cosmonaut Yuri Malenchenko completed a more than six-hour space walk. Lu and Malenchenko

attached nine power, data and communication cables to the ISS's newest component, the Russian-built Zvezda service module and to the Zarya control module. They also assembled a magnetometer boom on Zvezda's exterior.

Other amateurs aboard Atlantis included astronauts Dan Burbank, KC5ZSX, and Richard Mastracchio, KC5ZTE.

The ARISS initial station gear will be installed temporarily aboard Zarya and will use an existing antenna that's being adapted to support FM voice and packet on 2 meters.

The gear will be re-installed in the Zvezda Service Module next year and it will have both 2 meter and 70cm capabilities.

A Russian call sign, RZ3DZR, has been issued for the ISS ham radio station.

Counties Contest

Participants in the 2 Metres Counties Contest on the last Sunday in August are reminded that their logs should be with the Contest Manager John McDonnell EI6IR during the coming week.

You may e-mail them to John at ei6ir@eircom.net or by normal mail to John at QTHR.

Please send in your log, even if you only made a few contacts.

First LF-HF Crossband Trans-Atlantic QSO The first cross-band LF-HF contact across the North Atlantic was completed on September the 10th.

Dave Bowman G0MRF was operating from London on 135.711 kHz and John Currie VE1ZJ from Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia was on 20 metres.

Tir Chonaill AGM

The Tir Chonaill Amateur Radio Society is holding it's Annual General Meeting in Jackson's Hotel, Ballybofey, County Donegal on Wednesday next September 27th at 8.30 pm. All members and intending members are welcome to attend.

Items for inclusion in next weeks Radio News and the next issue of Echo Ireland should be forwarded to Dave EI4BZ at 021-883555 in the evenings or by e-mail at

ei4bz@eircom.net.

Dave is also available during office hours at 021-823172 and you can fax him at 021-823316

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